

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

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APPROVED BY S/S SRGAMMON

EA - RLSNEIDER

S - MR. LISSY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 146011

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, KS

SUBJECT: ROK PARLIAMENTARIANS - CALL ON SECRETARY

1. ENTIRE ROK PARLIAMENTARY GROUP (18 MEMBERS) PAID COURTESY CALL ON SECRETARY JULY 23 ACCOMPANIED BY MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, CONGRESSMEN O'NEILL (MASSACHUSETTS) AND MAILLARD (CALIFORNIA). SECRETARY OPENED ONE-HALF HOUR MEETING WITH WELCOMING REMARKS OF SIGNIFICANCE WE ATTACH TO ROLE OF LEGISLATIVE BODIES IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES, AND THEN PROCEEDED TO COMMENT ON HIS VISIT TO SEOUL.
 2. TOUCHING BASE WITH ALL PRINCIPAL ISSUES, SECRETARY FIRST ASSURED GROUP U.S. PLANS NO REDUCTIONS IN FORCE LEVELS THROUGH FY 74, AND THAT ANY FURTHER READJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE ONLY AS CONSISTENT WITH U.S.-ROK SECURITY, AND AFTER CONSULTATION. WE INTENDED TO CONTINUE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM ALTHOUGH IT MAY HAVE TO BE STRETCHED OUT BECAUSE OF CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS.
 3. REGARDING JUNE 23 INITIATIVES, SECRETARY REITERATED U.S. SUPPORT FOR CONSTRUCTIVE AND REALISTIC PROPOSALS
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ADVANCED BY PRESIDENT PARK WHICH HE DID NOT CONSIDER

TO BE HARMFUL TO UNIFICATION, AND COULD EVEN HELP. SECRETARY STATED THAT NORTH KOREA'S APPEARANCE AT THE UN MIGHT BRING WITH IT BENEFICIAL RESULTS IN THAT PUBLIC WILL NOW BE ABLE TO DRAW COMPARISONS BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH. SPECIFICALLY REGARDING UN ISSUES, SECRETARY STATED WE WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE ROKG ON TACTICS, THAT WE SEE EYE TO EYE ON UNCURK, AND ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT A UNGA DECISION ON ITS FUTURE. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT A DISSOLUTION OF THE UN COMMAND WOULD BE UNSETTLING AND WE ARE AGREED TO CONTINUE IT.

4. ON BEHALF OF DELEGATION, VICE SPEAKER KIM CHIN MAN SAID SECRETARY'S COMMENTS ABOUT U.S. SUPPORT WERE HEART-WARMING AND ENCOURAGING. KOREANS WERE WORRIED, HOWEVER, ABOUT VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THE SENATE CONCERNING FUTURE FORCE LEVELS. SECRETARY NOTED, AND CONGRESSMAN O'NEILL CONCURRED, THAT MOST OF SENATE CONCERN WAS FOCUSED ON EUROPE. ASSEMBLYMAN PARK JOON KYU MADE POINT THAT PRESIDENT PARK'S JUNE 23 INITIATIVES WILL REQUIRE ASSISTANCE FROM THE U.S. IN OBTAINING ASSURANCES FROM THE PRC AND USSR FOR STABILITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. SECRETARY INDICATED WE AWARE OF KOREAN DESIRES THIS REGARD. ROGERS

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